

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Re-examination and favorable reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following comments are respectfully requested.

Claims 1 - 26 are pending in the application. Currently, claims 1, 2, 5, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 25, and 26 stand rejected; claims 19, 20, 23 and 24 stand allowed; and claims 3, 4, 6 - 13, and 16 stand objected to.

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claims 2 and 3. Since claim 3 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter, claim 1, as well as dependent claims 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 - 15, 25 and 26 are in condition for allowance.

Additionally, objected to claims 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 16 have been placed into independent form and thus are allowable.

Still further, claims 2, 3, 17, and 18 have been cancelled and claims 21 and 22 have been amended to depend from allowed claim 19. Therefore, claims 19 - 22 are in condition for allowance.

In the office action mailed December 16, 2005, a number of rejections were made on grounds of double patenting and prior art. These rejections are all moot in view of the amendments to the claims.

For the foregoing reasons, the instant application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, he is hereby invited to contact Applicant's attorney at the telephone number listed below.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the extra independent claim fee \$1,000.00 to Deposit Account No. 21-0279. Should the Director determine that an additional fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said additional fee to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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By

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I, Nicole Motzer, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on March 16, 2006.

